Annual Report of the
Centre for the Study of Living Standards

July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003
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Annual Report
of the Centre for the Study of Living Standards
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Introduction

The Centre for the Study of Living Standards (CSLS) is a national, non-profit, independent research organization incorporated under the Canada Corporations Act on February 27, 1995. CSLS activities began in May 1995 and the CSLS office was opened in August of that year. This eighth annual report covers the activities of the CSLS between July 1, 2002 and June 30, 2003.

The objectives of the CSLS are twofold: first, to contribute to a better understanding of trends in and determinants of living standards through research; and second, to contribute to public debate on living standards issues by developing and advocating specific policies to improve the standard of living of Canadians. The CSLS carries out much of its work by developing research networks to mobilize the intellectual resources of the country to shed light on key economic and social trends and issues.

The program year 2002-03 was again a successful one for the CSLS. A total of 39 papers were released in English in various publications, with 13 of the articles also being released in French.\(^1\) This report provides a summary of all CSLS activities. The key accomplishments undertaken in 2002-03 are highlighted below:

- publication of two issues of the *International Productivity Monitor*, both receiving national media attention;
- continued progress on the development of the Index of Economic Well-being, with a growing profile for the Index internationally;
- release of a special issue of the journal *Canadian Public Policy* on the linkages between economic growth and inequality;
- release of nine CSLS Research Reports on a variety of topics;

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\(^1\) The following is a breakdown of the number of articles released by publication: two issues of the *International Productivity Monitor* in both English and French (13), Special Issue on *Canadian Public Policy* on Economic Growth and Inequality (11), CSLS Research Reports (9), and articles produced by the CSLS published in other journals and edited volumes (6). The 16 articles in the *Review of Economic Performance and Social Progress* released in December 2002 are not counted in this year’s production as they were included in the annual report for 2001-02.
• organization at the request of the Canadian Consulate in New York of a conference on relative Canada-U.S. productivity and living standard trends for Canada watchers in the New York financial and economics communities;

• organization of six sessions at the annual meeting of the Canadian Economics Association in Ottawa in May-June 2003;

• preparation of two background papers on the relationship between productivity and poverty in developing countries for the International Labour Organization’s 2004 issue of the *World Employment Report*; and

• coordination of an international team of researchers for a Ford Foundation-funded project on the construction of a new architecture for labour market statistics, including organization of a final project conference in Bellagio, Italy, September 2002.

**Major Projects**

**International Productivity Monitor**

In September 2000, the Centre for the Study of Living Standards (CSLS), with financial support from Industry Canada, launched the *International Productivity Monitor*. The objective of this publication has been to focus attention on the importance of productivity for improving living standards and quality of life. The *Monitor* publishes high-quality articles on productivity issues, trends and developments in Canada and other countries and serves as a vehicle for an international exchange of ideas and information on productivity topics. Print and on-line versions are published twice a year in English and French and distributed on a complimentary basis. The articles are largely non-technical in nature and of interest to a wide audience of productivity researchers and analysts as well as the general public.

The fifth issue of the *Monitor* (Fall 2002), published in December 2002, contained six articles. Topics covered were: the widening Canada-U.S. productivity gap in manufacturing; a framework for raising Canadian living standards; the impact of economic reform on British productivity growth; productivity and policy reform in Australia; the measurement of government productivity; and a review of the volume *Productivity Issues in Canada*. The table of contents is provided in Appendix 8.

The sixth issue (Spring 2003), released in May 2003, contained seven articles: lessons for Canada from the U.S. growth resurgence; why Americans are more productive than Canadians; differences in hours worked between Canada and the United States; trend productivity growth in Canada; the contribution of ICT to productivity growth in North America and Europe; data sources for international productivity comparisons; and a review
article of *Towards A Social Understanding of Productivity*. The table of contents is provided in Appendix 9.

The *Monitor* continues to attract top economists from around the world. Well-known contributors in 2002-03 included David Card, Pierre Fortin, Richard Freeman, Richard Harris, Dale Jorgenson, Jeff Madrick, and Bart van Ark.

Both issues of the *Monitor* have received extensive media coverage. For example, the Fall 2002 issue made the front page of the *National Post* on two consecutive days (December 19 and 20, 2002). A list of selected media coverage is found in Appendix 3. The *National Post* articles as well as other media coverage of the *Monitor*, are found in Appendix 11.

Approximately 1,000 copies of the English version and 250 copies of the French version of the *Monitor* are printed and distributed. About 200 copies are mailed to productivity researchers outside Canada. In addition, email notification of the free on-line availability of the publication is sent to a large number of persons, including all members of university economics departments in Canada, the Canadian Association for Business Economics, the Progressive Economist Forum, and the NBER Productivity Program.

The publication is edited by CSLS Executive Director Andrew Sharpe. A small Editorial Board has been established with the roles of reviewing the material for publication, providing ideas for articles, and setting general editorial guidelines. This Board met twice in 2002-03.

Members of this Board in 2002-03 were:

- John Baldwin, Director of the Micro-Economic Studies Division at Statistics Canada;
- Pierre Fortin, Professor of Economics at the Université du Québec à Montréal and a member of the CSLS Board of Directors;
- Someshwar Rao, Director, Strategic Investment Analysis, Micro-Economic Policy Analysis Branch at Industry Canada;
- Benoît Robidoux, Director of the Economic Studies and Policy Analysis Division at Finance Canada; and
- Lawrence Schembri, Research Advisor in the International Department at the Bank of Canada.

In addition to the Editorial Board, an International Advisory Committee (IAC) composed of leading international productivity experts has been established. This committee meets once a year in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Economic Association. The fourth meeting took place on January 3, 2003 in Washington,
D.C. Members of this committee review articles submitted to the *Monitor* and keep the editor abreast of world productivity developments.

The members of the International Advisory Committee on July 1, 2002 were:

- Joji Arai, Executive Director of the International Productivity Service;
- Ernie Berndt, Professor of Economics at the Sloan School at MIT;
- Jeff Bernstein, Professor of Economics at Carleton University and Research Associate at the NBER;
- Erwin Diewert, Professor of Economics at the University of British Columbia;
- Barbara Fraumeni, Chief Economist at the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis;
- Robert Gordon, Professor of Economics at Northwestern University;
- Richard G. Harris, Telus Professor of Economics at Simon Fraser University;
- Tony Hubert, Executive Director of the European Association of National Productivity Centres;
- Charles Hulten, Professor of Economics at the University of Maryland;
- Dale Jorgenson, Professor of Economics at Harvard University;
- Larry Mishel, President of the Economic Policy Institute;
- Pascal Petit, Director at the Centre d’Etudes Prospectives d’Economie Mathématique Appliquées à la Planification (CEPREMAP), Paris;
- Paul Schreyer, Principal Administrator at the OECD;
- Anwar Shaikh, Professor of Economics at the New School for Social Research;
- Jack Triplett, Visiting Scholar at the Brookings Institution;
- Bart van Ark, Professor of Economics at the University of Groningen; and
- Edward Wolff, Professor of Economics at New York University and Editor of the *Review of Income and Wealth.*
In 2002-03 two persons left the IAC because of retirement. Mark Sherwood retired from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and was replaced on the IAC by Marilyn Manser, BLS Associate Commissioner with responsibility for productivity statistics. Tony Hubert from the European Association of National Productivity Centres (EANPC) also retired. He was replaced on the IAC by Peter Rehnstrom, Chair of the EANPC and President of the Finnish Work Environment Fund.

In addition, four persons joined the IAC in 2002-03:

- Dean Parham, Associate Commissioner at the Australian Productivity Commission;
- Jeffrey Madrick, Editor of *Challenge* and economics columnist for the *New York Times*;
- Martin N. Baily, Senior Fellow at the Institute for International Economics and former Chair of the U.S. Council of Economic Advisers; and
- Lawrence Jeffrey Johnson, Director of the Key Indicators of the Labour Market (KILM) project at the International Labour Organization.

**Index of Economic Well-being**

In 2002-03, the CSLS continued to work on the development of the Index of Economic Well-being (IEWB), in particular the development of a scaling methodology for the Index, and the construction of an Index of Labour Market Well-being based on the four components of well-being identified in the initial index. The project continues to be coordinated by Andrew Sharpe, CSLS Executive Director, and Lars Osberg, Professor of Economics at Dalhousie University and a member of the CSLS Board of Directors.

The relationship between the Index of Economic Well-being and the Human Development Index was explored in a paper presented in May 2003 at both the annual meeting of the Canadian Economics Association (CEA) in Ottawa and at an international conference organized by the World Institute for Development Economics (WIDER) in Helsinki, Finland. Preliminary estimates of the Index of Labour Market Well-being were presented at the CSLS-organized international conference on the development of a new cross-national architecture for labour market statistics in Bellagio, Italy in September 2002, and at the annual meeting of the Canadian Economics Association in Ottawa in May 2003. A paper on methodological issues encountered in the construction of indexes of economic and social well-being was also presented at the CEA annual meeting. The updated estimates of the Index of Economic Well-being for OECD countries were published as the lead article in the *Review of Income and Wealth* in September 2002.

The Index continues to receive favourable attention both in Canada and abroad:
• The French Ministry of Social Affairs (Ministère des affaires sociales, du travail, et de la Solidarité) organized a symposium on the Index of Economic Well-being on October 15, 2003 at the office of the Ministry in Paris. Andrew Sharpe presented the index to an audience of around 60 persons. Three French social scientists (Dominique Méda, Florence Jany-Catrice, and Bernard Perret) then provided commentaries on the Index, followed by a response from the author. A French translation of the *Review of Income and Wealth* paper on the Index was published in the Ministry of Social Affairs journal *Travail et Emploi* in January 2003, as were the three commentaries on the Index from the October symposium and a rejoinder by the authors.

• The October 2002 issue of the *Scientific American* included a complimentary article on the Index of Economic Well-being (Appendix 11).

• *RealityCheck: The Canadian Review of Well-being*, a joint project of GPI Atlantic and the Atkinson Charitable Foundation, published a very positive assessment of the IEWB by four experts (Appendix 11).

• The Index figures prominently in major surveys of the literature on well-being indicators, including surveys commissioned by the French government and by the UK Cabinet Office.²

The CSLS plans further work on the Index in a number of areas, including: further elaboration and refining of the Index of Labour Market Well-being; development of societal weights through focus groups and surveys; work on the relationship between the components of economic well-being and subjective well-being or happiness; the estimation of the Index of Economic Well-being for developing countries; and more sophisticated modeling of environmental sustainability. Updated estimates will be released on a regular basis.

Because of a lack of funding for the Index, the project has been cross-subsidized by other CSLS projects. In 2002-03, an attempt was made to obtain funding for the work on the Index from a number of Canadian foundations. This attempt was unsuccessful. Consequently, the work on the IEWB has been progressing at a pace slower than would have been the case if funding had been received.

**Special Issue of *Canadian Public Policy* on the Linkages between Economic Growth and Inequality**

In January 2003, the Centre for the Study of Living Standards (CSLS) and the

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Institute for Research on Public Policy (IRPP) published a special issue of the journal *Canadian Public Policy* on the linkages between economic growth and inequality. The issue was edited by Pierre Fortin, Professor of Economics at the Université du Québec à Montréal; Andrew Sharpe, CSLS Executive Director; and France St-Hilaire, IRPP Vice-President. In addition to contributions from a number of well-known Canadian researchers, the issue included contributors from England, the United States and the OECD Secretariat.

The volume contained revised versions of papers originally presented at a major public conference organized by the CSLS and IRPP held in Ottawa in January 2001. The objectives of the conference were twofold. First, to bring the most recent research on the issue of the linkages between economic growth and inequality in the context of developed economies, with particular reference to Canada and the United States, to the attention of policymakers. Second, to open a public debate about the choices facing Canadian society on the issues of economic growth and inequality and their linkages. The table of contents of the issue is found in Appendix 10.

**Ford Foundation Project on a New Architecture for Labour Market Statistics**

In 2002-03, the CSLS continued the coordination of an international project on the construction of a new cross-national architecture for labour market statistics. The project is funded by the Ford Foundation and involves researchers from 11 countries (Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain, Denmark, Sweden, and the Netherlands). The project builds on the results of an earlier project which examined the international comparability of labour market statistics, chiefly the unemployment rate for nine of the 11 countries involved in the current project.

The CSLS organized the project’s final conference, which took place at the Rockefeller Conference Centre in Bellagio, Italy on September 23-27, 2002. Revised versions of the papers first presented at the team workshops on labour market performance, capacity, and well-being held in the winter and spring of 2002 were presented at the conference. A total of 18 papers were presented and discussed over the five days of the conference. The conference papers are posted on the CSLS Website. The final conference program is found in Appendix 4.

After the conference, preparation began for the publication of the project’s findings. A detailed proposal was sent to a number of university presses. The University of Chicago Press offered to publish the findings in a two-volume set. This offer has been accepted. The lead authors for the volumes will be CSLS Executive Director Andrew Sharpe, and Barry Bluestone, Director of the Centre for Urban and Regional Studies at Northeastern University in Boston, with contributions from many of the project members.

The CSLS organized two sessions on the findings of the project at the annual meeting of the Canadian Economics Association at Carleton University in Ottawa on May 30, 2003. Details are found in Appendix 7. The American Economic Association (AEA) also accepted a proposal from the CSLS for a session on the project’s findings at the AEA
annual meeting in San Diego, California in January 2004.

**ILO World Employment Report**

At the request of the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Geneva, the Centre for the Study of Living Standards was invited to serve as a lead consultant in the preparation of the 2004 issue of the ILO’s *World Employment Report* (WER). The topic of the report is to be productivity. This is the first time that the tripartite ILO has focused on the controversial productivity issue in one of its flagship publications.

At a WER planning meeting in March 2003 in Geneva, CSLS Executive Director Andrew Sharpe made a presentation on the relationship between productivity growth and poverty reduction in developing countries to ILO officials. A detailed background paper on this topic was then prepared for the ILO by the CSLS, with CSLS economist Olivier Guilbaud the principal researcher. The paper was released as a CSLS Research Report in September 2003.

In addition, a second paper on the relationship between productivity growth and poverty reduction in China was prepared for the ILO by CSLS research assistant Wei Chang. This paper was also released as a CSLS Research Report in October 2003.

**Conference on Relative Canadian-U.S. Productivity and Living Standard Trends**

At the request of the Canadian Consulate in New York, the Centre for the Study of Living Standards organized a small conference on relative Canada-U.S. productivity and living standard trends at the office of the Canadian Consulate in New York City on April 16, 2003. The purpose of the conference was to provide a forum for discussion of relative productivity and living standards trends in Canada and the United States for Canada watchers in the New York financial and economics communities.

Papers were given by CSLS Executive Director Andrew Sharpe, Pierre Fortin from the Université du Québec à Montréal, and Dale Jorgenson of Harvard University. Discussants were Jack Triplett from the Brookings Institute, Ed Wolff from New York University, and Tiff Macklem from the Bank of Canada. Pamela Wallin, Canadian Consul-General in New York, opened the conference while Jeff Madrick, economics columnist for the *New York Times* chaired the event. About 70 persons attended. The program is found in Appendix 6. The papers from the conference were published in the Spring 2003 issue of the *International Productivity Monitor*.

**Contract Research**

In addition to its own research projects, the CSLS undertakes research contracts for other organizations on topics in which the CSLS has an interest and expertise. In 2002-03, the CSLS undertook major external research contracts for four organizations, as outlined
The TD Bank asked the CSLS to prepare a detailed analysis of trends and determinants of living standards in Canada. The paper served as background for the TD Forum on Living Standards that was held in Ottawa, October 7-8, 2002. The paper was released as a CSLS Research Report in November 2003, with an abridged version appearing in the Fall 2003 issue of the *International Productivity Monitor*.

The Forest Product Association of Canada contracted the CSLS to prepare a survey of the literature on productivity in the forest products sector and a report of productivity trends in the forest products sector in Canada. The literature survey and the report were posted as CSLS Research Reports on the CSLS Website in February 2003.

Natural Resources Canada asked the CSLS to undertake an analysis of productivity trends in natural resource industries in Canada. A CSLS Research Report on this topic was released in February 2003.

The Labour Policy Branch of Human Resources Development Canada asked the CSLS to prepare a short paper on labour market challenges facing Canada in the medium-term. The paper was presented at a roundtable for HRDC officials held in June 2003 in Ottawa.

The Evaluation Branch of Human Resources Development Canada asked the CSLS to prepare a survey of the literature on frameworks for macro-indicators. The paper will be published by the CSLS in 2003-2004.

**Other Activities**

In addition to major projects outlined above, in 2002-03 the CSLS undertook a number of other activities, summarized below.

**International Activities**

In 2002-03, the CSLS increased significantly its international activities. In addition to coordination of an international project on labour market statistics and the work with the ILO on the WER, the CSLS was involved in the following international activities.

- Consultant to the Social Policy and Development Centre (SPDC) in Karachi, Pakistan on their 2002-03 *Annual Review of Social Development in Pakistan: The State of Education*. This CIDA-funded project involved the provision by
the CSLS of detailed comments to the SPDC on the draft chapters of the annual review.

- Canadian representative (with the Caledon Institute) on an international working group organized by the German Bertelsmann Foundation that produces the publication *International Reform Monitor* and speaker at the group's annual conference held in Rome, May 2003.


- Participation in the OECD Expert Committee on Productivity Levels as part of the preparation for an OECD reader on the topic.

- Member of the Board of Directors of the International Society for Quality of Life Studies (ISQOLS); and

- Member of the Board of Directors of two international economics journals: *The Review of Income and Wealth* and *Journal of Socio-Economics*.

### Sessions at Conferences

As a way of fostering debate of key economic issues and raising the profile of the CSLS in Canada and abroad, the CSLS organizes sessions at various conferences, particularly those of economics associations. In 2002-03, sessions were organized at two conferences.

- In October 2002, the CSLS organized a session on risk and economic well-being at the annual policy conference organized by the Policy Research Initiative (see Appendix 5 for the program).

- At the annual meeting of the Canadian Economics Association held at Carleton University May 30-June 1, 2003, the CSLS organized or co-organized six sessions on the following topics: understanding and improving labour market statistics (two sessions); the Canada-U.S. unemployment rate gap (co-organized with the Progressive Economics Forum); industry productivity trends in Canada; social and economic indexes of well-being; and future trends in productivity in Canada. The presentations from the panel on future productivity growth in Canada were published in the Fall 2003 issue of the *International Productivity Monitor*. The presentations from the panel on the Canada-U.S. unemployment rate gap are being published in *Policy Options*. The sessions in all cases were well attended. The program for the sessions is found in Appendix 9.
Productivity Data Base

In 2002-03, the CSLS released revised and updated productivity estimates for the 1987-2002 period based on the new North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Estimates are provided in level and index form for output per hour, output per worker, output per unit of capital, and total factor productivity based on hours and employment for Canada and the ten provinces. Estimates for 233 industries are provided for Canada for the 1987-2002 period, with data for some series only available from 1997 to 2002. These estimates supersede earlier estimates based on the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC), although the SIC-based series (which in some cases provide greater industry detail) are still available upon request. Tables can be downloaded and viewed at no charge. The productivity estimates from the data base continue to be widely used. The CSLS would like to thank Alberta Economic Development for financial support to maintain and update the database.

Website

The CSLS website (www.csls.ca) was completely redesigned in early 2003 to make use of more up-to-date web software. The new look has been well received. All CSLS documents continue to be posted. The website has been particularly useful for the diffusion of the International Productivity Monitor, which receives the largest number of hits of all documents posted.

Media Coverage and Commentary

National media coverage of CSLS activities and CSLS media commentary continued to be strong in 2002-03, including front page stories in the National Post on two consecutive days (December 19 and 20, 2002). A listing of selected media coverage is provided in Appendix 3 and examples of media coverage are found in Appendix 11.

Speeches and Presentations

In 2002-03, CSLS Executive Director Andrew Sharpe gave a total of 21 presentations and speeches, including presentation and discussion of papers to a wide variety of groups. Eight of the presentations were related to the Centre’s work on economic well-being, with the others related to a wide range of topics, including productivity, poverty, and labour market trends. A list of the presentations is provided in Appendix 1.

3 The number of industries for which estimates are provided is less at the provincial level. Estimates for 219 industries are provided for Ontario, followed by Quebec (211), British Columbia (170), Manitoba (167), Alberta (165), Saskatchewan (154), Nova Scotia (151), New Brunswick (145), Prince Edward Island (102), and Newfoundland (101).
Advisory Committees and Working Groups.

The CSLS is active in a volunteer capacity on a large number of organizations and groups. In 2002-03, CSLS Executive Director Andrew Sharpe served on eight advisory committees and groups, four working groups, two editorial boards, and one Board of Directors (see Appendix 1).

Activities Planned for 2003-04

The CSLS began a full agenda of work for the program year beginning July 1, 2003, with much of the work focusing on the continuation of core CSLS projects such as the International Productivity Monitor, the Index of Economic Well-being, and the Ford Foundation project on a new architecture for labour market statistics. Additional projects being undertaken in 2003-04 include the following.

- CSLS Research Reports on: negative productivity growth service industries in Canada and the United States; the Canada-Atlantic Canada manufacturing productivity gap; alternative measures of labour market capacity in Canada and the United States; an Index of Economic Well-being for the Canadian provinces; a survey of frameworks for macro-indicators; methodological choices encountered in the construction of indexes of economic and social well-being; service sector productivity growth in Canada and the United States; a new architecture for labour market statistics; the relationship between economic well-being and happiness; and an exploration of the linkages between productivity and social development in market economies.

- Participation in and organization of sessions at the annual meetings of the Canadian Economics Association and the American Economics Association, and the conference of the International Society for Quality of Life Studies.

- The undertaking of a number of studies in the productivity field, including work on: productivity trends in natural resource industries; productivity trends in Atlantic Canada; productivity trends in the retail trade sector; measurement and explanations for Canada-U.S. productivity level differences in a number of industries; and the appropriate measurement of aggregate labour productivity growth.

- Effective August 2004, the Centre for the Study of Living Standards will become the secretariat for the International Association for Research on Income and Wealth (IARIW). Andrew Sharpe will assume the position of IARIW Executive Director.
CSLS Staff

In 2002-03, Lynne Browne continued to serve as office manager on a part-time contract basis. Dmitry Kabrelyan continued to maintain the CSLS website and provide research support on a part-time contract basis. Jeremy Smith, an undergraduate economics student at the University of Ottawa, worked on a full-time basis in the summer of 2002 before entering graduate studies in economics at Queen’s University in the fall of 2002. Olivier Guilbaud, an undergraduate student in economics from the University of Ottawa worked at the CSLS on a full time basis in the summer of 2002, on a part-time basis in the fall of 2002, and again on a full-time basis from January to July 2003 before entering graduate studies in economics at the Université de Montréal. Kirsten Robertson, an undergraduate student at the University of Ottawa, worked at the CSLS on a part-time basis in the fall of 2002. Wei Chang, a graduate economics student at Carleton University was employed by the CSLS in the summer of 2003. Julia Salzman, a graduate student in mathematics at Stanford University, worked at the CSLS from January to March 2003 on a volunteer basis.

Financial Information

In the fiscal year ending March 31, 2003, CSLS reported an operating deficit of $43,421 based on gross revenues of $239,829 and expenditure of $283,250. Gross revenues were down 35.0 per cent in 2002-03 over 2001-02 while expenditures were down 21.4 per cent. The deficit left the CSLS with a balance of $30,195 as of March 31, 2003, down from $73,616 as of March 31, 2002.

The deterioration of the CSLS financial position reflected a number of factors, including the end of the IRPP-CSLS agreement on the Review of Economic Performance and Social Progress, the appreciation of the Canadian dollar relative to the U.S. dollar, which reduced the Canadian dollar value of earnings denominated in U.S. currency, and a focus on non-revenue generating activities. It is expected that the 2003-04 fiscal year will see a significant improvement in the CSLS operating balance because of a number of large contracts that the CSLS has obtained.

A detailed breakdown of revenue and expenditure is given in the financial statement and can be obtained by contacting the CSLS office.

Acknowledgements

In 2002-03, the CSLS completed its eighth successful year of operation. This success is due to the contributions and support of a large number of individuals and organizations. I would like to thank CSLS Executive members, David Slater and Ian Stewart, for their continued commitment to the work of the CSLS; the CSLS Board of
Directors for their strong support; Lars Osberg for his continued invaluable assistance on the Index of Economic Well-being; Someshwar Rao for his close collaboration on the International Productivity Monitor; Lynne Browne for office management; Olivier Guilbaud, Jeremy Smith, Julia Salzman, Kirsten Robertson, and Wei Chang for research assistance; Dmitry Kabrelyan for website development; and funders of CSLS projects, including Industry Canada, the Institute for Research on Public Policy, the TD Bank, the Ford Foundation, Natural Resources Canada, the Forest Products Association of Canada, Alberta Economic Development, and Human Resources Development Canada for their support of the work of the CSLS; and Brian Watson for accounting and auditing services.

Andrew Sharpe
CSLS Executive Director
February 13, 2004
Appendix 1

CSLS Activities, July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003

Conferences, Workshops, Meetings, and Conference Sessions Organized


October 24-25  Session on Risk, Insecurity and Well-being at the Policy Research Initiative Conference, Ottawa, Ontario.


May 30  Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Centre for the Study of Living Standards, Signature’s, Ottawa, Ontario.

May 30-June 1  Sessions at the annual meeting of the Canadian Economics Association, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario.

Papers Presented by Andrew Sharpe (text available)


meeting of the American Economic Association, Washington, D.C.

January 22


January 23


April 16


May 30


May 30

“An Index of Labour Market Well-being for OECD Countries,” (with Lars Osberg) paper presented at the CSLS session “Understanding and Improving Labour Market Statistics I” at the annual meeting of the Canadian Economics Association, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario.

May 30


May 30


May 31

“Methodological Issues Encountered in the Construction of Indices of Economic and Social Well-being,” (with Julia Salzman) paper presented at the CSLS session on Indexes of Economic and Social Well-being at the annual meeting of the Canadian Economics Association, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario.

May 31

“Human Well-being and Economic Well-being: What Values are
Implicit in Current Indices?” (with Lars Osberg) paper presented at the CSLS session on Indexes of Economic and Social Well-being at the annual meeting of the Canadian Economics Association, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario.

May 31 “Productivity Growth and Poverty Reduction in Developing Countries,” (with Olivier Guilbaud) paper presented at the annual meeting of the Canadian Economics Association, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario.

Presentations by Andrew Sharpe


December 11 “L’indice du Bien-être économique,” presentation to seminar series organized by the Outaouais chapter of the Association des économistes québécois.

February 19, 2003 “Overview of the Index of Economic Well-being,” presentation to the workshop on Quality of Life Indicators organized by the Canadian Policy Research Networks, Ottawa, Ontario.

March 3 “Productivity Growth and Poverty Reduction in Developing Countries,” presentation to the team of ILO Officials responsible for the World Employment Report, Geneva, Switzerland.


May 27 “Why Are Americans More Productive than Canadians?” presentation to a luncheon meeting of the Ottawa Economics Association, Chateau Laurier, Ottawa, Ontario.

June 10 Presentation on the labour market challenges facing Canada at HRDC roundtable, Delta Hotel, Ottawa, Ontario.

Discussion of Papers

**Chairing of Sessions**

May 31, 2003  Chair of CSLS/PEF session “What Ever Happened to the Canada-U.S. Unemployment Rate Gap” at the annual meeting of the Canadian Economics Association, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario.

June 2  Chair of CSLS session “Perspectives on Future Productivity Growth in Canada” at the annual meeting of the Canadian Economics Association, Carleton University of Calgary, Ottawa, Ontario.

**Selected Briefings on CSLS Activities and Research**

February 10, 2003  Briefing for Korean journalist on Canada’s competitive position.

February 26  Briefing on CSLS activities for David Vardy, Acting Executive Director, Public Policy Institute, Memorial University.

March 20  Briefing lunch on productivity trends with senior officials from the Bank of Canada.

**Advisory Committees, Working Groups, Editorial Boards, and Boards of Directors, July 1, 2002-June 30, 2003**

**Advisory Committees**

Member, Statistics Canada Advisory Committee on Services.

Member, Statistics Canada Advisory Committee on the Voluntary Sector.

Member, Expert Advisor Group to the Consumer Trends Project, Office of Consumer Affairs, Industry Canada.

Member, Steering Committee of the Environment and Sustainable Development Indicators Initiative of the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy.

Member, Conference Board of Canada Expert Committee on Connectedness.

Member, OECD Advisory Committee on Productivity Levels.

Member, Conference Board of Canada Advisory Panel on the Innovation Benchmarking Report.
Member, Conference Board of Canada Advisory Group for the 2003 Edition of *Performance and Potential*.

**Working Groups**


Canadian Representative (with Caledon Institute), Bertelsmann Foundation project on the *International Reform Monitor*.

Member, Working Group on a New Architecture for Social Policy, Canadian Council on Social Development

**Editorial Boards**

Member, Editorial Committee, *Review of Income and Wealth*.

Member, Editorial Board, *Journal of Socio-Economics*.

**Boards of Directors**

Member, Board of Directors, International Society for Quality of Life Studies (ISQOLS).
Appendix 2

Publications, 2002-03

Research Reports Released by the CSLS


Contract Research Produced by the CSLS


Articles in Journals


Chapters in Books


Articles in Newsletters and Newspapers


Edited Publications

International Productivity Monitor, Number Five, Fall 2002, 82 pp.


International Productivity Monitor, Number Six, Spring 2003, 74 pp.

Observateur international de la productivité, Numéro 6, Printemps 2003, 68 pp.


Other


Appendix 3

Selected Listing of CSLS Media Coverage, July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2002

Selected Print Media Coverage on CSLS Publications and Activities

July 8, 2002  “Leisure often responsible for GDP gaps,” Amazing Facts column by Bruce Little, *Globe and Mail*.

September 25  “The ROB has captured 40 years,” by Peter Cook using CSLS income tables, *Globe and Mail*.


October 11  “Dull maybe, but productivity’s our future,” column by Jeffrey Simpson, *Globe and Mail*.

December 19  “Productivity Gap Costing $1,400 a Year,” main headline at top of front page of first section, *National Post*.

December 19  “Productivity gap with U.S. wider, costlier,” by Eric Beauchesne, top of front page of Business Section, *Ottawa Citizen*.

December 20  “Canada lags Ireland in living standards, front page of *National Post*.

December 20  “Canada trails Ireland in standard of living,” by Eric Beauchesne, top of front page of Business Section, *Ottawa Citizen*.

December 23  “Productivity studies reveal a mixed bag,” Amazing Facts column by Bruce Little, *Globe and Mail*.

December 30  “Most see productivity as key to higher living standards,” by Eric Beauchesne, article appeared in *Ottawa Citizen*, and other Southam papers.

May 19, 2003  “Good news and bad in economic data,” Amazing Facts column by Bruce Little, *Globe and Mail*.

May 27  “Private sector rapped for productivity gap,” article by Bruce Little, *Globe and Mail*.

May 28  “Let’s get the innovation agenda back on track,” column by David Crane, Toronto Star.

May  “A New Map to Progress: The Index of Economic Well-being,” and “Measuring the Merits of the New Index” in RealityCheck: The Canadian Review of Well-being, Volume 3, Number 1.

Selected CSLS Quotations and Commentary in the Print Media


July 13  “Productivity fell for the first time in five years,” by Alan Toulin National Post.

July 16  “Work force getting older, census shows,” Canadian Press story by Peter Smith appearing in many papers, including the Toronto Star.

August 22  “He walked the middle,” by Luiza Chwialkowska, National Post.


September 7  “Canadians, Americans split on benefits of NAFTA,” by Adrian Humphreys, National Post.

September 14  “Canada gains on U.S. in productivity,” by Eric Beauchesne, Ottawa Citizen (front page Business section).

December 17  “Surging real income lifts living standards,” by Michael Huggins, Financial Post.

CSLS Quotations and Commentary in the Electronic Media

October 30, 2002  Panel on the Finance Canada Economic and Fiscal Update, Newsworld.

February 27, 2003  Interview on CBC’s The National on CPI release.
Appendix 4


Final Program

Monday, September 23, 2002

21:00-22:00 Report from Principal Investigators

Tuesday, September 24, 2002

Labour Market Performance

9:00-10:05 “The Unemployment Rate as a Performance Indicator: A Critical Approach from the Macro Perspective” Rafael Munoz de Bustillo

Discussant: Jacques Freysinnet

10:05-10:20 “Hours of Work as a Measure of Performance: Prospects and Pitfalls” Mary Stevenson

Discussant: John Schmitt

10:20-11:25 Break

11:25-12:30 “Labour Market Efficiency, Equity and Economic Performance” Jonathan Wadsworth

Discussant: David Howell

12:30-13:00 Group Photo

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-15:15 “Social Policy and Economic Performance” Helen Robinson

Discussant: Martha MacDonald

15:15- 16:30 “Does Low Dutch Unemployment Represent Superior Economic
Performance or Labour Market Transformation?” Weimer Salverda

Discussant: Andrew Sharpe

16:30-16:45 Break

16:45- 18:00 Performance Team Leader Report by Rafael Munoz de Bustillo and Discussion

Wednesday, September 25, 2002

Labour Market Capacity

9:00-10:00 “Measuring Labour Market Capacity”
“The Decomposition of Annual Hours Worked: Toward a Better Understanding of the Sources of Labour Supply and Labour Market Capacity”
“A Note on Measuring Hours of Work”
Barry Bluestone and Barbara Hamilton

Discussant: Rafael Munoz de Bustillo

10:00-11:00 “Different Theoretical and Empirical Approaches to Measuring Capacity”
Jacques Freysinnet

Discussant: Jonathan Wadsworth

11:00-11:15 Break

11:15-12:15 “Labour Market Capacity: The Danish Case Study” Peter Plougmann and Finn Tidemand

Discussant: Weimer Salverda


Discussant: Jeff Johnson

13:15-14:30 Lunch

14:30-15:30 “Employee’ Preferences for More or Fewer Hours” Kea Tijdens

Discussant: Mary Stevenson

15:30- 16:30 “Capacity Constraints, Aggregate Demand and Differential Patterns of
Economic Activity and Growth” Paolo Piacentini
Discussant: Achim Kemmerling

16:30-16:45 Break

16:45- 18:00 Capacity Team Leader Report by John Schmitt and Discussion

Thursday, September 26, 2002

Labour Market Well Being

9:00-10:00 “An Index of Labour Market Well-being for OECD Countries” Andrew Sharpe
Discussant: Barry Bluestone

10:00-11:00 “Investigating Subjective and Objective Well-being Across Countries”
Michael Bolle and Achim Kemmerling
Discussant: Helen Robinson

11:00-11:15 Break

11:15-12:15 “Worker Empowerment and Entitlements in 21st Century USA” Pasqualino Colombaro
Discussant: Paolo Piacentini

12:15-13:15 “Underemployment as a Measure of Labour Market Well-being:
Measurement and Meaning Across Countries” Martha MacDonald
Discussant: Finn Tidemand

13:15-14:30 Lunch

14:30-15:30 “Unemployment, Underutilization, and Low Pay: Toward a Summary
Measure of Employment Inadequacy” David Howell
Discussant: Kea Tijdens

15:30- 16:30 “Labor Market Statistics and Well-being: A New Architecture but Under
Construction” Tatsuru Akimoto
Discussant: Barbara Hamilton
16:30-16:45 Break

16:45- 18:00 “Entitlements, the Labour Market and Well-being”
“Labour Market and Well-being: Profiles of the Work Carried out by the Well-being team” by Antonio Lettieri

**Friday, September 27, 2002**

9:00-12:00 Discussion of the Final Report

12:00 - 14:00 Lunch

14:00 - Free time
Appendix 5

Panel on Risk, Insecurity and Well-being Organized by the Centre for the Study of Living Standards for the Policy Research Initiative Conference, Ottawa, Ontario, October 24-25, 2002

Risk, Insecurity and Economic Well-being

Chair: Ian Stewart (former Deputy Minister of Finance)

Presenters: Lars Osberg (Dalhousie University) "Risk, Insecurity, and the Welfare State"

Keith Banting (Queen's University) "The Human Capital Approach to Risk and Economic Security: Strengths and Weaknesses"

Andrew Sharpe (CSLS) "Approaches to Labour Market Risk and Economic Security in OECD Countries"
Appendix 6

Conference on Relative Canada-U.S. Productivity and Living Standard Trends, April 16, 2003

Canada Room
Canadian Consulate
1251 Avenue of the Americas
Lower Level
Rockefeller Center
New York, New York

Event sponsored by the Centre for the Study of Living Standards, the Canadian Consulate in New York, and the New York Association of Business Economists

2:00-5:00 PM

Introductory Remarks: Pamela Wallin (Canadian Consul-General in New York)

Chair: Jeff Madrick (New York Times economics columnist)

Papers: Andrew Sharpe (Centre for the Study of Living Standards) “Why Are Americans More Productive than Canadians?”

Pierre Fortin (Université du Québec à Montréal) “Sources of Living Standard Differences Between the United States and Canadian Provinces”

Dale Jorgenson (Harvard University) “Lessons for Canada from the U.S. Growth Resurgence”

Discussants: Jack Triplett (Brookings Institution)
Ed Wolff (Department of Economics, New York University)
Tiff Macklem (Bank of Canada)

5:00- 6:00 PM Reception
Appendix 7

Sessions Organized at the 2003 Annual Meeting of the Canadian Economics Association by the Centre for the Study of Living Standards, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario, May 30-June 1, 2003

Session 1     Friday, May 30 10:30-12:00

Understanding and Improving Labour Market Statistics I

Chair:       Ian Stewart (Centre for the Study of Living Standards)

Papers:     David Howell (New School University) “Beyond the Unemployment Rate: Toward a Summary Measure of Employment and Earnings Adequacy”

Lars Osberg (Dalhousie University) and Andrew Sharpe (Centre for the Study of Living Standards) “An Index of Labour Market Well-being for OECD Countries”

Discussants: Garnett Picot (Statistics Canada)
             Doug Smith (Carleton University)

Session 2     Friday, May 30 14:00-15:30

Understanding and Improving Labour Market Statistics II

Chair:       David Slater (Centre for the Study of Living Standards)

Papers:     Barry Bluestone (Northeastern University) and Andrew Sharpe (Centre for the Study of Living Standards) “Construction of a New Architecture for Labour Market Statistics: A Synthesis of the Bellagio Rockefeller-Ford Foundation International Project”

Barry Bluestone (Northeastern University) and Barbara Hamilton (Hamilton Analytics) “Toward a Better Measure of Labour Market Capacity: The Role of Hours in Aggregate Supply”

Discussants: Deborah Sunter (Statistics Canada)
             Craig Riddell (University of British Columbia)
Session 3  
Friday, May 30 16:00-17:30

Industry Productivity Trends in Canada

Chair: Dale Orr (Global Insight)

Papers
Someshwar Rao (Industry Canada) and Jianmin Tang (Industry Canada) “Productivity and Competitiveness Challenges Facing Canadian Industries”

John Baldwin (Statistics Canada) and Jianmin Tang (Industry Canada) “Contributions of SMEs to the Manufacturing Productivity Gap Between Canada and the United States”

Andrew Sharpe (Centre for the Study of Living Standards) “Productivity Trends in Natural Resources Industries in Canada”

Discussants: Larry Schembri (Bank of Canada)
Paul Davenport (University of Western Ontario)
Andrew Baldwin (Statistics Canada)

Session 4  
Saturday, May 31, 10:30-12:00 (co-organized with the Progressive Economics Forum)

What Ever Happened to the Canada-U.S. Unemployment Rate Gap?

Chair: Andrew Sharpe (Centre for the Study of Living Standards)

Panelists: Geoff Bowlby (Statistics Canada)
Tiff Macklem (Bank of Canada)
Craig Riddell (University of British Columbia)
Jim Stanford (Canadian Auto Workers)

Session 5  
Saturday, May 31 14:00-15:30

Indexes of Economic and Social Well-being

Chair: Ernie Stokes (Centre for Spatial Economics)

Papers: Julia Salzman (Stanford University and CSLS) and Andrew Sharpe (CSLS) “Methodological Issues Encountered in the Construction of Indices of Economic and Social Well-being”

Lars Osberg (Dalhousie University) and Andrew Sharpe (Centre for the Study of Living Standards) “Human Well-being and Economic
Well-being: What Values are Implicit in Current Indices?"

Discussants: Erwin Diewert (University of British Columbia)
Michael McCracken (Informetrica)

Session 6  Sunday, June 1, 10:30-12:00

Perspectives on Future Productivity Growth in Canada

Chair: Andrew Sharpe (Centre for the Study of Living Standards)

Panelists: Serge Coulombe (University of Ottawa)
Tiff Macklem (Bank of Canada)
Benoît Robidoux (Finance Canada)
Tom Wilson (University of Toronto)
Appendix 8

Articles for the Fifth Issue of the *International Productivity Monitor*, Fall 2002

Editor’s Overview

“The Widening Canada-U.S. Productivity Gap in Manufacturing”, Jeffrey I. Bernstein, Richard J. Harris and Andrew Sharpe

“Raising Canadian Living Standards: A Framework for Discussion”, Andrew Sharpe

“What Have Two Decades of British Economic Reform Delivered in Terms of Productivity Growth”, David Card and Richard Freeman

“Productivity and Policy Reform in Australia”, Dean Parham

“Guide to the Measurement of Government Productivity”, Andrew Hughes

“Review Article on Industry Canada Research Volume *Productivity Issues in Canada*”, Ian A. Stewart
Appendix 9

Articles for the Sixth Issue of the International Productivity Monitor, Spring 2003

Editor’s Overview

“Lessons for Canada from the U.S. Growth Resurgence”, Dale Jorgenson, Mun Ho, and Kevin Stiroh

“Why Are Americans More Productive than Canadians?”, Andrew Sharpe

“Differences in Annual Hours Worked Between Canada and the United States”, Pierre Fortin

“Information Technologies and the U.S. Productivity Revival: Is Canada Lagging Behind?”, Dirk Muir and Benoît Robidoux


“International Productivity Comparisons: An Examination of Data Sources”, Jeremy Smith

“Review Article on Towards a Social Understanding of Productivity”, Jeffrey Madrick
Appendix 10

Articles for the Special Issue of Canadian Public Policy on Economic Growth and Inequality, January 2003

Canadian Public
POLICY

Analyse de
POLITIQUES

XXIX Supplement/numéro spécial
January/janvier 2003

Preface and Acknowledgements/
Préface et Remerciements

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The Role of Economic Growth, Employment
Earnings and Social Transfers

Charles M. Beach, Ross Finnie and David Gray
Earnings Variability and Earnings Instability of
Women and Men in Canada: How Do the 1990s
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Huw Lloyd-Ellis
On the Impact of Inequality on Productivity Growth
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Morris Altman
Economic Growth and Income Equality: Implications
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Appendix 11

Selected Examples of CSLS Print Media Coverage

1) News Scan “Quality of Life” by Rodger Doyle, Scientific American, October 2002, page 32.

2) “Productivity Gap Costing $1400 a Year,” Front Page story by Eric Beauchense in the National Post, December 19, 2002

3) “Canada lags Ireland in standard of living,” front page story by Eric Beauchense in the National Post, December 20, 2002

4) “Productivity studies reveal a mixed bag,” Amazing Facts column by Bruce Little, Globe and Mail, December 23, 2002.


